Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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P 121115Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5542 INFO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PRAGUE 1519

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, EGEN, CZ

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO USG OFFICIAL JOSEPH W. DUNCAN

REF: 76 PRAGUE 2491

1. E/C COUNSELOR WAS ASKED JUNE 9 BY MR. JEZEK OF FEDERAL STATISTICAL OFFICE (FSO) WHETHER MR. JOSEPH W. DUNCAN, WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS DIRECTOR OF "FEDERAL STATISTICAL POLICY OFFICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE," WOULD ACCEPT INVITATION OF FSO PRESIDENT JAN KAZIMOUR TO VISIT CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ACCORDING TO JEZEK, INVITATION WAS EXTENDED BY LETTER DATED MAY 19 WHICH WAS SENT DIRECTLY TO DUNCAN, NOT VIA CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY. INVITATION WAS FOR 3 OR 4 DAY VISIT TO START EITHER ON JUNE 19 OR JULY 3. WHEN QUERIED, JEZEK SAID FSO WOULD COVER EXPENSES OF DUNCAN'S STAY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA BUT NOT OF HIS TRAVEL BETWEEN U.S. AND CSSR.

- 2. E/C COUNSELOR REPLIED THAT EMBASSY HAD HAD NO PRIOR WORD OF THIS INVITATION BUT WOULD QUERY WASHINGTON. HE ALSO TOLD JEZEK THAT LETTER MAY HAVE GONE ASTRAY AND NOT HAVE REACHED DUNCAN.
- 3. COMMENT: WE FIND NO LISTING IN 1977
 CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTORY OF A JOSEPH W. DUNCAN AT
 COMMERCE, BUT WE NOTE A JOSEPH W. DUNCAN ON
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PG. 473 WHO IS DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR STATISTICAL POLICY AT THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB). IF FSO ADDRESSED INVITATION LETTER TO USDOC INSTEAD OF TO OMB, IT MAY NEVER HAVE REACHED DUNCAN. KAZIMOUR, INCIDENTALLY, RECEIVED U.S. COMPTROLLER GENERAL ELMER B. STAATS IN AUGUST, 1976 (REFTEL), AND INDICATED THEN AN

INTEREST IN FUTURE COOPERATION WITH USG. HOWEVER, EMBASSY HAS NOT HEARD FROM KAZIMOUR SINCE, ALTHOUGH HE MAY HAVE SINCE VISITED U.S.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ASCERTAIN WHETHER JOSEPH W. DUNCAN AT OMB (OR AT USOC, IF THERE IS AN OFFICIAL THERE BY THAT NAME) HAS RECEIVED KAZIMOUR'S INVITATION AND WHETHER, IN ANY CASE, HE INTENDS TO ACCEPT INVITATION EITHER ON DATES SPECIFIED OR AT ANOTHER TIME. BYRNE

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TAGS: OVIP, EGEN, CZ, US, (DUNCAN, JOSEPH W)

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